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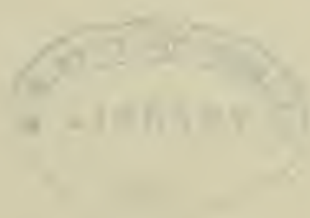
BROADWOODWIDGER RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1947.



BROADWOOD RIDGER RURAL DISTRICT.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health - 1947.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report for the year 1947.

The general health of the district was good throughout the year and no epidemic sickness occurred. Measles was fairly prevalent amongst the school children and one case of poliomyelitis in a remote part of North Pethervin was notified. The source of infection of this case could not be found.

The births are average for the district and the birth rate at 17.5 compares quite well with England and Wales at 20.5 as a whole.

The death rate is somewhat higher than the Country as a whole but the figure is not significant owing to the smallness of the population under review.

It will be noted from the table of milk samples that 82% of designated producers passed the test. The farmers in your district who have this designation are to be congratulated on their years results as their success is considerably in excess of many other comparable areas.

General Statistics.

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. E.D.Allen-Price, M.D.(State Medicine), Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

Mr. T.A. Judd, M.S.I.A.

Area	...	...	...	...	29,294.
Population - Mid 1947	...	...	...	...	1,946.
No. of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	...	538.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£4,283.
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	£17:0:3.
Loan Debt	...	...	...	...	£15,490:6:8.

Vital Statistics.

			<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Live Births	..	..	21	13	34	
Legitimate	..	..	20	11		
Illegitimate	..	..	1	2		
						<u>England</u>
						<u>& Wales</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...				17.5	20.5
Still Births	...	Nil	.....		-	0.50
			<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
Deaths	..	..	18	18	36	

England
& Wales

Death Rate per 1,000 population	.. 18.4	12.0
Deaths from Maternal Causes	.. Nil	1.17
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	.. 3	
Infantile Mortality	88	41.0

The chief causes of death were :-

Infectious Causes :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... 3

General Causes :

Heart Disease	...	...	...	17
Cancer	....	...	...	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1
Congenital	...	...	...	1
Suicide	...	...	...	1
All Violent Causes	...	...	...	3
All Other Causes	...	...	...	6

36

Causes of Deaths of Infants under 1 year :

Suffocation	...	...	...	1
Marasmus	...	...	...	1
Congenital	...	...	...	1
				<u>3</u>

Age of Death Table.

<u>Age at Death</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Under 1 year	2	1
1 - 5 ...	-	1
5 -15 ...	-	-
15-25 ...	1	-
25-35 ...	-	1
35-45 ...	-	-
45-55 ...	-	1
55-65 ...	2	3
65-75 ...	4	4
75 & Over...	9	7
	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>

Total:- 36.

The general Provision of the health services remained as in previous years, and appears to be satisfactory.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified by practitioners :-

Measles	...	...	...	16
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified by the schools in the area :-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	6
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	2
Mumps	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	28
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	21
Ringworm	...	...	...	1
Pink Eyes	...	...	...	1
Impetigo	...	...	...	2

Diphtheria.

No case of this disease was notified during the year. At the end of the year 48% of the children under 5 years and 83% of school children have been immunised.

Tuberculosis.

One fresh case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified during the year and three deaths recorded. At the end of the year two people remained on the register.

I would thank the Council for the ready hearing I always receive to my proposals and to Mr. Judd who has kindly prepared the section on housing and sanitation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. D. Allen-Price,

Medical Officer of Health.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen,

Council Houses.

Ladycross.

After considerable delay on the part of the Contractors, the six Cornish Unit houses on this site were started at the end of the year.

Maxworthy.

The contract for a pair of Cornish Unit houses was signed early in the year. No work had been started at the end of the year.

Langdon.

Lay-out plans for two Cornish Unit houses have been approved by the Ministry of Health.

St. Giles.

Lay-out plans for six Cornish Unit houses have been approved by the Ministry of Health.

PLANS.

The following plans were approved :-

1. School Canteen, St. Giles	1.
2. Farmhouse, Virginstow	1.
3. Temporary dwelling, Scotland, Virginstow . .	1.
4. Converting two condemned houses into one. Churchtown, Virginstow	1.
5. Addition of washhouses	2.
6. Addition of bathrooms, & W.C.s.	3.
7. Blacksmith's Shop, Petherwin Gate	1.
8. Garages	4.
9. Agricultural buildings	5.

New Houses Completed.

1. Bungalow, Highfield, North Petherwin . . .	1.
2. Bungalow, Crossgate, Werrington . . .	1.
3. Bungalow, Sutton Lane, Werrington . . .	1.

Housing Survey.

During the year a survey of all the smaller houses and small holdings in the district was carried out. Private dwelling houses with a Rateable Value of over £16 a year and the larger Farmhouses were not inspected.

Of the 538 houses in the district, 313 were surveyed. The result of this survey revealed the following classification:-

1. Number of houses in no need of repair . . .	63 (20%)
2. Number of houses in need of minor repairs ..	62 (20%)
3. Number of houses in need of major repairs ..	150 (48%)
4. Number of houses capable of being reconditioned under the Rural Workers Acts .	18 (6%)
5. Number of houses considered incapable of repair at reasonable expense . . .	20 (6%)

With the rising cost of labour and materials it is expected that when the time comes to deal with the houses in Category 3 under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, and as a result of a more detailed inspection for the purposes of a Notice, it will be found that many of the houses cannot be rendered fit in all respects for human habitation at a reasonable cost. It may therefore become necessary to deal with many of the houses in this Category under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

The following interesting information was gathered as the result of the Survey :-

1. Houses without a bath	300	(96%)
2. Houses without a W.C.	286	(91%)
3. Houses without a Larder	95	(30%)
4. Houses without a drain	138	(44%)
5. Houses having their water supply more than 20 yards from the dwelling	95	(30%)
6. Houses with a privy midden	18	(6%)
7. Houses without a washing copper	193	(62%)
8. Houses without a kitchen sink	270	(86%)
9. Houses with rooms less than 6'6" high	56	(19%)
10. Houses without secondary access	93	(27%)
11. Houses occupied by one person only	18	(6%)
12. Houses found to be very dirty	10	(3%)
13. Houses overcrowded	Nil.	

In measuring for overcrowding ALL rooms in a house have to be taken into consideration, it is thus possible for a house to be not overcrowded although the actual sleeping accommodation (bedrooms) is overcrowded.

DANGEROUS BUILDINGS.

As the result of a Statutory Notice two empty and dangerous buildings at Petherwin Gate were demolished and the site cleared.

HOUSING REPAIRS.

Three Statutory Notices were served and, at the end of year, two had been complied with.

Seven Informal Notices were served and, at the end of the year, five had been complied with.

SCHOOLS.

Fifteen visits were paid to the 5 schools. With the exception of Ladycross all were found to be satisfactory.

The Sanitary arrangements at Ladycross School are most unsatisfactory and in a state of nuisance. The Council, after taking the matter up with the County Council, appointed a Sub-Committee to meet a Sub-Committee from that Authority, as the result of which plans have been prepared for installing a satisfactory water-carriage system.

MILK PRODUCTION.

During the year 43 visits were paid to cowsheds and dairies. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining labour, little structural work has been carried out. Seven cowsheds have been provided with concrete standings and channels also improved lighting and ventilation.

No new licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Orders during the year.

The results of milk samples taken were as follows :-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Passed</u>	<u>Failed</u>
Tuberculin Tested	21	17 } (82%)	4 } (18%)
Accredited	13	11 }	2 }
Ordinary School	7	4 (57%)	3 (43%)

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

T. A. JUDD.

Sanitary Inspector.

